



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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November 5, 1998

Honorable Wally Herger
Representative, U.S. Congress
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0502

Dear Mr. Herger:

Thank you for your letter of October 1, 1998, inquiring into the approaches the CALFED Program is adopting regarding the Trinity River Watershed.

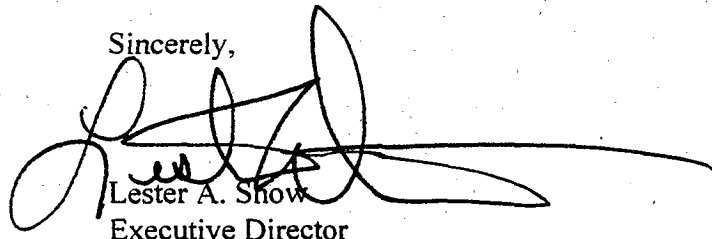
The Trinity River Watershed is included in the geographic scope of the CALFED Watershed Management Program. As such, projects to improve the watershed are eligible for funding under the watershed element of Proposition 204.

The Trinity River Watershed is not included in the geographic scope of the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan, due to the lack of a nexus between the biological or physical ecological processes of the Trinity River and the ecological health of the Bay-Delta System. While it is true that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation diverts water from the Trinity River to the Sacramento River and this diversion has reduced the ecological integrity of the Trinity, the connection with the Delta is entirely artificial.

In 1992, through the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), Congress acknowledged the impacts to the Trinity River caused by the diversions of the Central Valley Project and directed the Secretary of the Interior to take actions to mitigate those impacts. The restoration program of the CVPIA is authorized and funded to take appropriate action.

I hope this information is helpful. Please call me at (916) 657-2666 or Daniel McCarroll, CALFED Legislative Coordinator at (916) 653-5704 if you have questions on this material.

Sincerely,



Lester A. Show
Executive Director

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service